

Minutes Human Relations Commission January 10, 2006

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on TUESDAY, January 10, 2006 6:00 P.M., at the Tempe City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Zach Berning
Colleen Byron
Arlene Chin
Michele Duval
Joseph Mann
Joel Navarro
Safali Patel-Evans
Gail Paredes-Ewen
Linda Ritland

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Hassan Elsaad
Edwin Gonzalez-Santin
Janis Webb
Muhammed Zubair

City Staff Present:

Rosa Inchausti
Andrea Groves

Guests Present:

Jayson Matthews, Tempe Community Council

Meeting convened at 6:04 P.M.

Chair Joel Navarro called the meeting to order and invited members of the public to address the Commission.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Welcome new Human Relations Commissioner

Chair Joel Navarro introduced new commissioner Michele Duval and invited her to give a brief introduction:

- 1) Commissioner Michele Duval works for Department of Economic Security assisting residents who are disabled with job training.
- 2) She feels that Tempe is a great city which has assisted many residents who are disabled in employment and education and would like to help continue the success of the city.

Agenda Item 3- Consideration of Minutes
December 13, 2005

MOTION: Commissioner Colleen Byron made a motion to accept minutes.

SECOND: Commissioner Arlene Chin.

DECISION: Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 – Unity Grants Update

Chair Joel Navarro invited Jayson Matthews from the Tempe Community Council to provide an update on the Unity Grants:

- 1) The Tempe Community Council is an independent non-profit human services agency that works closely with the City of Tempe. This agency administers the Unity Grants.
- 2) The HRC assisted the Tempe Community Council in making some improvements to the Unity Grant application and scoring process. The application now requires applicants to highlight how their diversity program meets the mission and goals of the Unity Grant program.
- 3) In the past, Unity Grants were given to any Tempe high school that applied but they were not held accountable. To address accountability, grant recipients must now give a summary presentation to the commission at a future HRC meeting and invite a member of the HRC to observe their respective program.
- 4) Grant applicants also receive written feedback from the evaluators to assist the schools in improving their program.
- 5) This year's Unity Grant recipients were Corona del Sol High School for their Awareness Day and Aztectown Program, Marcos de Niza for their Unity Program, McClintock High School for their Unitown Program, and Tempe High School for their Words in Actions Campaign.
- 6) The HRC was asked to motion to accept the scoring results and recommended funding for the recipients of the 2006 Unity Grants.

General Discussion of the Unity Grants included:

- The commission expressed concern with the observation that Compadre High School does not participate and suggested that hosting an information sharing session with all the high schools may motivate them to apply for a Unity Grant to fund their diversity program.
- Commissioners Patel-Evan and Ritland volunteered to assist with coordinating and facilitating the information sharing session. Jayson Matthews asked the commission to brainstorm a timeline in which to host the roundtable discussion.

MOTION: Commissioner Joseph Mann made a motion to accept scoring results and recommended funding for the recipients of the 2006 Unity Grants.

SECOND: Commissioner Colleen Byron.

DECISION: Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 – HRC Strategic Plan Update

Chair Joel Navarro asked for an update on the following subcommittees:

A. Subcommittee for Development of Emerging Issues Report:

Chair Joel Navarro provided an update:

1. Public Forum Discussion on Day Labor Issue

- 1) The Regional HRC Subcommittee on Day Labor would like to host another public forum on day labor in Tempe on March 9, 2006. This forum will focus on the proposed legislation from Senator John McCain, Senator Jon Kyl, and Congressman JD Hayworth regarding work visas and its

impact on immigration. The last forum was a general overview of all sides of day labor; this forum will specifically look at legislation impact.

- 2) The Regional Subcommittee is still working with legislators to confirm their participation.

2. GLBT Issues Update

There was no report.

B. Subcommittee for Community Network and Outreach:

Commissioner and co-Chair of subcommittee, Linda Ritland, provided an update:

1. Brochure

- 1) Each commissioner received a copy of the final product, the full-color printed brochure featuring the HRC, the Disability Commission, and the Diversity Office.
- 2) A copy of the brochure will be at each place setting at the Diversity Awards Brunch.

C. Subcommittee on Strategic Oversight Update

Chair of subcommittee Gail Paredes-Ewen provided an update on the following topic:

1. Tempe Talks: A Diversity Dialogue Update.

- 1) The next Tempe Talks: A Diversity Dialogue program will begin in January 2006. ASU Intergroup Relations Director Thomas Walker will conduct the training for facilitators on January 18, 2006.
- 2) Additional efforts have been made to form a teen dialogue group. The subcommittee continues to encourage high school students to participate.

General Discussion of Tempe Talks: A Diversity Dialogue included:

- One commissioner suggested that the subcommittee solicit participants from the student component of Tempe Leadership.
- Another commissioner suggested that the subcommittee contact the Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission for participants.
- Another commissioner suggested that the subcommittee contact charter and private schools, as well as local faith youth groups.
- The commission overall felt that seven weeks is too long of a commitment for a teenager and suggested a 4-week session starting February 15, 2006.

D. Subcommittee on Supplier Diversity Update

No report; however staff Rosa Inchausti briefly mentioned that Mayor and Council approved the creation of a Race Neutral Supplier Diversity Program in Tempe.

Agenda Item 5 –MLK Subcommittee Update

Chair of subcommittee Gail Paredes-Ewen provided an update:

- 1) The subcommittee reviewed the winners of the 2006 Diversity Awards and commented that they were no winners for the new Supplier Diversity category.
- 2) The 2006 HRC Diversity Awards Brunch will be held at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel, Monday, January 16, 2006.
- 3) Proceeds gathered from the brunch will be donated to Tempe Community Council's Help to Others (H2O) program.
- 4) Commissioners Colleen Bryon, Gail Paredes-Ewen, Safali Patel-Evans, and Linda Ritland volunteered to staff the name tag table.

Agenda Item 7 –Regional HRC Conversational Exchange

Chair Joel Navarro led discussion on the next Regional HRC Conversational Exchange:

- 1) It is Tempe's turn to host the next Regional HRC Exchange in February.
- 2) The commission decided to form a subcommittee to meet and determine the agenda and date. Chair Joel Navarro, along with Commissioners Zach Berning, Michele Duval, and Gail Paredes-Ewen volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.
- 3) Staff will set up a meeting with the subcommittee in the next two weeks.

Agenda Item 8–February HRC Meeting

Chair Joel Navarro led discussion on February's Human Relations Commission meeting:

- 1) Since the next commission meeting falls on Valentine's Day, the commission discussed meeting in the morning instead of 6pm that evening.
- 2) The commission decided to meet at 8am. Staff will look for an alternate meeting room if the 3rd Floor Conference Room at City Hall is not available.

Agenda Item 9–Diversity Office Update

Staff Rosa Inchausti provided an update on the following topics:

1. Regional Unity Walk Update

- 1) Tempe hosted the Regional Unity Walk for the past two years. This year the City of Phoenix agreed to host the event.
- 2) Tempe walkers will assemble at Monterey park at 3rd Street and Sheridan and begin the Unity Walk at 9:30am.
- 3) The Walk culminates at the Indian Steel Park at 3rd Street and Indian School for the Black Heritage Festival hosted by APS.

Agenda Item 10 –Current Events Announcements

- MLK Diversity Awards Brunch will be held January 16, 2006, 10:30am at Tempe Mission Palms Hotel.
- Tempe Talks: A Diversity Dialogue program kick-off will be held January 25, 2006, 6pm at the Tempe Library Program Room.
- Tempe Leadership Class of XX will host a dedication ceremony of an art piece created by Gary Beals Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 5pm in front of City of Tempe's Police and Courts building at 120 E. 5th Street.
- A guided tour of the special exhibit "A Proud Journey Home: Cambodian, Laotian, and Vietnamese Communities in Arizona" will be presented Thursday, January 19, 2006, at 6:30pm at the Tempe Historical Museum.

The commission's next meeting will be February 14, 2006 at 8:00am at Tempe City Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 P.M.

Prepared by: Andrea Groves

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Manager